

disturbing evidence of Customs' use of racial profiling in searching African American citizens nine times more often than their white counterparts, even though they did not discover contraband with any greater frequency. This is not a record upon which we ought to base less redress for the victims of illicit searches.

Section 144 would allow warrantless inspection of outgoing international mail, again circumventing judicial oversight. Even the U.S. Postal Service said of this intrusion: "There is no evidence that eroding these long-established privacy protections will bring any significant law enforcement improvements over what is achieved using existing, statutorily approved law enforcement techniques." [Letter to Chairman Oxley from the USPS, dated 10/11/01]. Postal officials can always hold mail while they wait for a court to issue a warrant.

These two provisions play right into the hands of the terrorists, for whom the "rule of law" was intended as a primary victim of the September 11th attacks. We should not allow that to happen. I hope that my colleagues will join me in opposing these two misguided provisions of H.R. 3129. They will not make our borders any safer.

HONORING COLONEL JAMES W.
DELONY

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to honor my friend, Colonel James DeLony, Commander of the Wilmington District, United States Army Corps of Engineers.

After almost 30 years of honorable, distinguished and loyal service to his country, Colonel DeLony has decided to move forward and accept new challenges as the Director of Public Utilities for Collier County, Florida. Collier County is not only getting an accomplished engineer but more importantly a true American patriot.

During his three-year tour in North Carolina, Colonel DeLony was more than just my District Commander, he became a dear friend and confidant of mine. It was not uncommon for us to talk by phone several times a week on things other than civil works projects and water infrastructure needs.

When I review Colonel DeLony's laundry list of achievements from the last three years, my heart swells with pride. Working together as a team, Colonel DeLony, the Wilmington District, the citizens of North Carolina and members of Congress were successful in providing for numerous beach nourishment projects, port operations and maintenance, environmental restoration projects, navigation projects, and flood control projects.

The Army Corps of Engineers is one of the few government agencies that provides tangible benefits for the American public. Without the Corps, America's water infrastructure would be non-existent and civil works projects would grind to a halt.

It seems every year, Congress needlessly debates the role of the Army Corps of Engineers. There are many in Congress who want to rein-in the Corps. I believe these people would change their minds if they had a District

Commander like Colonel DeLony. Because of people like Colonel DeLony, I for one think it would be wise to un-leash to Corps and provide them the necessary resources to continue their civil works improvements throughout the nation.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel DeLony has dedicated his life to the defense and security of this nation. It is with a great deal of pride and respect that I bring his career to the attention of this House of Representatives. Colonel DeLony has earned the thanks of a grateful nation for all of his hard work and on behalf of Eastern North Carolina. I thank you for a job well done and wish the very best for you and your family.

BUSH, PUTIN, PROVE REAGAN
RIGHT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point out that less than a week after Ronald Reagan was presented the Congressional Gold Medal, President George W. Bush is in Russia cementing an arrangement Reagan's critics said could never be accomplished. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin will sign a landmark arms-control treaty slashing long-range nuclear warheads, while at the same time shredding the flawed 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty. The pact allows the U.S. to finally build and deploy a comprehensive missile defense system, headquartered in Colorado Springs.

"One of the most important contributions we can make is, of course, to lower the level of all arms, and particularly nuclear arms," Reagan said in his now famous March 23, 1983, missile defense speech. "I am directing a comprehensive and intensive effort to define a long-term research and development program to begin to achieve our ultimate goal of eliminating the threat posed by strategic nuclear missiles."

Reagan's vision was of a future in which U.S. technology would make long-range missiles obsolete—technology that would "pave the way for arms control measures to eliminate the weapons themselves."

Reagan's critics deprecatingly labeled his plan "Star Wars," predicting the earth would be "turned into a gigantic orbiting bomb."

In its account of the speech, Time magazine (April 4, 1983) opined, "As with many of the President's uncomplicated-sounding proposals, the idea of spaceage missile defenses masks a swarm of complexities. It raises the specter of an arms race in space, which ultimately could be more expensive and dangerous than the one taking place on Earth."

To the contrary, Reagan's doctrine of "peace through strength" hastened the demise of the "Evil Empire." The end of the Cold War was finally in sight.

"When President Reagan started this program, Soviet intelligence had already obtained information on the 'Star Wars' program, and they were scared," former Soviet KGB operative Oleg Kalugin would later admit. "They were convinced they would never be able to match the U.S. program for purely financial reasons."

In time, Reagan's passion for peace outpaced the Soviet economy, leading to the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the break up the Soviet empire, and the death of communist totalitarianism.

In January, Bush picked up where Reagan left off, boldly announcing his intention to withdraw the U.S. from the ABM Treaty. Predictably, partisans on the Left prophesied doom. Again, they were wrong.

Rather than escalating an arms race, the specter of a robust missile shield has produced the opposite result. To the astonishment of those who said it could not be done, Bush and Putin will, on May 24, sign an arms-control treaty reducing long-range nuclear warheads from roughly 6,000 on each side to between 1,700 and 2,200.

Exactly three weeks later, the first day the U.S. will be freed from the ABM Treaty, the U.S. Missile Defense Agency will begin construction of underground silos for the first missile interceptors, located at Fort Greely near Fairbanks, Alaska. Once banned by the ABM Treaty, the Fort Greely program will consist of five missile-interceptor silos and related communications systems. Headquartered in Colorado Springs, the missile defense system will involve a sizeable defense investment in Colorado. Currently, the military tracks missile launches around the world from its primary ground station at Buckley Air Force Base near Aurora.

Sadly, Democrats in the Senate are fighting to gut the missile defense program, insisting they know better than the experts how to defend the country from the enemies of the United States. They prefer instead a policy of talking America's enemies out of attacking us.

According to Bush, the land-based intercept program should be only the beginning. America must continue to ignore the whining of liberals still baffled by the success of Reagan's courage. We must fully fund a robust ballistic missile defense program, encompassing a variety of technologies, including spacebased missile-intercepting technology.

Though it has been available for years, the United States has delayed this technology because of treaty restrictions.

Now, thanks to Bush, Americans will soon be free to build and deploy a comprehensive missile defense shield while at the same time achieving an historic anti-proliferation agreement.

In our nation's 226-year history, Congressional Gold Medals have been awarded only 135 times. Beginning with George Washington, each honoree made an important contribution to our nation in the face of skepticism and against the predictions of those who harp "it can't be done."

Ronald Reagan is in good company: No Congressional Gold Medal has ever been awarded to an advocate of a weaker America.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT
COLONEL CATHY VITTORIA AS
COMMANDER OF THE 773RD
MAINTENANCE BATTALION

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Cathy Vittoria who has

recently taken command of the 773rd Maintenance Battalion, Louisiana Army National Guard. LTC Vittoria is to be commended for her unselfish and outstanding service to our country and is deserving of our sincere gratitude.

LTC Vittoria began her career defending our country by enlisting in the Connecticut National Guard. After achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant, she attended Officers Candidate School. In January 1985, she received her commission and served as a Platoon Leader in the Virginia National Guard until June, 1986. Upon her transfer to the 123rd Maintenance Company at Fort Irwin, California, she served as the Material Service Officer, Maintenance Control Officer, and Company Commander. In September, 1993, LTC Vittoria was transferred to the 529th Forward Support Battalion in Virginia.

In February, 1998, LTC Vittoria was transferred to Detachment 1, Headquarters STARC where she served as the Administrative Chief until October 1999 when she became the Deputy Commander for the 62nd Weapons of Mass Destruction Team. From August 2000 until January 2002, LTC Vittoria served as the Operations Officer for the 199th Leadership Regiment, LTC Vittoria is a full-time member of the Louisiana National Guard and works as the Operations Officer at the Gillis W. Long Center in Carville, Louisiana.

I am proud that LTC Vittoria is a constituent in Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District and I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize her achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I know you and all my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating LTC. Cathy Vittoria upon her promotion as Battalion Commander of the 773rd maintenance Battalion, Louisiana Army National Guard.

3M SPECIALTY MATERIALS DIVISION

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, 3M was founded 100 years ago in Two Harbors, Minnesota and serves as the world's leading innovative company; and

Whereas, 3M makes and sells thousands of products that improve people's lives; and

Whereas, 3M is a company consisting of 75,000 employees world-wide and 250 at the 3M Specialty Materials Division in Greenville, South Carolina; and

Whereas, the 3M Specialty Materials Division began operations in Greenville in 1973; and

Whereas, 3M makes valuable contributions to our community through jobs, environmental stewardship, charitable contributions and volunteerism;

Therefore, be it declared that, the 28th day of May 2002, shall be 3M DAY.

CELEBRATING BOB BEIN'S 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Robert W. Bein's 40 years of service and leadership with RBF Consulting, located in Irvine, California. Now the Chief Executive Officer, Bob Bein has dedicated his life to serving his firm and his profession.

RBF Consulting is an engineering, planning, and surveying firm with over 600 employees and offices in California, Arizona, and Nevada. Bob Bein joined RBF in 1962 as a Chief Engineer, and went on to become President of RBF in 1964, and then Chief Executive Officer in 1991. Under Bob Bein's leadership, RBF has provided engineering, planning, and surveying services for land development, urban design, public works, transportation, and water projects throughout the western United States.

In addition to his role as a corporate executive, Bob Bein is a highly respected and nationally known leader in the engineering profession—involving himself extensively in professional, civic, and community organizations at the local and national levels. He is a graduate and distinguished alumnus of the University of Illinois, as well as a United States Navy veteran, and an honorary member of Chi Epsilon. Like his career with RBF, his service to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has been extraordinary. With stints as ASCE's national president, district director, and chair of various committees, his value to his colleagues and dedication to his profession can be measured quite simply by his numerous awards.

Bob Bein is truly an asset to his company and a cornerstone of the civil engineering profession. It's been a pleasure working with him in Congress as an advocate for so many of the county's important public works projects, from the Santa Ana River flood control project, to the Ronald Reagan Federal Courthouse and our county's many miles of interstate highways.

His decades of service in Orange County and around the United States are a testament to his character and abilities as a leader and an engineer. I congratulate Bob on his milestone, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

H. CON. RES. 410

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Congressmen Ed Royce, Amo Houghton, Frank Wolf, and Don Payne in introducing a resolution supporting peace and democracy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and an end to the plunder of its natural resources. H. Con. Res. 410 calls on President Bush to press for a United Nations embargo of Congolese diamonds, which are helping to fund a war that has engulfed the heart of Africa since it began in 1998, and plunged its people into a darkness where disease and misery flourish.

As the *Washington Post* reported a few months ago:

Since a rebellion erupted in 1998, Congo, which is roughly the size of Western Europe, has been effectively partitioned into several autonomous regions, each under the control of a foreign army that systematically loots its area of control. As a result, Congo's plentiful resources enrich the leaders of surrounding countries while providing no benefit to the vast majority of Congolese. . . .

Diamonds are not the cause of what has come to be known as Africa's First World War, but they play a crucial role in sustaining it. The most concentrated form of wealth ever known to mankind, diamonds are one of Africa's most liquid resources, the world's easiest commodity to smuggle, and readily available to anyone with power. From individual soldiers; to military commanders who have reoriented their troops toward full-time pillaging; to regimes that depend on standing armies and the chaos of war to stay in power; to Al Qaeda, Hezbollah, and other radical groups that have used this resource to inflict terror beyond Africa's shores—all have exploited the Congo's diamonds. They have turned a symbol that Americans treasure into a means for torturing countless thousands of people in Africa. They have put an industry that is important to American and African communities alike under a cloud, and they must be stopped.

EFFECT OF RESOLUTION

Under the terms of the Kimberley Process, the international system that aims to block conflict diamonds from the legitimate trade, conflict diamonds are defined as those embargoed by the United Nations. This means that, until the UN imposes sanctions on diamonds originating in a war zone, trade in the diamonds that fuel conflict there is not checked. The fact that diamonds currently mined in the Congo are not, technically, conflict diamonds creates a huge credibility gap for US and international efforts alike. The international system of controls aims to close that gap, but it would be foolish for the UN Security Council to postpone sanctions in reliance on a global system that is just now being devised.

Instead, the United Nations should impose an embargo similar to those on Sierra Leone and Angola's diamonds immediately. That would contribute needed pressure to regularize the trade in Congolese diamonds, combatting the criminal activities that usually accompany smuggling and compelling other countries to stop abetting this illegal trade. Some 85 percent of Congolese diamonds, worth \$854 million a year, are smuggled away; if its government collected taxes on them, some \$40 million could be added to this beleaguered country's coffers and used to respond to its people's desperate needs.

Another benefit of an embargo on Congolese diamonds would be to close the enormous loophole that the DRC has become for sanctions-busters. Currently, diamonds mined by Sierra Leonean and Angolan rebels, or trafficked by Liberia, can easily be passed off as Congolese diamonds. To leave so vast a country, which produces significant quantities of diamonds, outside scrutiny dooms international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds elsewhere.

Beyond these practical benefits, there is a moral reason to act. Curbing the smuggling of Congolese diamonds and other resources is essential to securing a lasting peace. A cease-